



7 Safety Analysis

Safety is a primary concern in evaluating an existing bikeway facility system or in proposing new facilities or extensions. The primary lesson learned from the literature reviewed for this bicycle master plan and others is that installation of bicycle facilities without careful consideration of their specific attributes and drawbacks can actually exacerbate already problematic safety situations. This is particularly true for facilities that are likely to be used by other types of users such as walkers, runners and skaters, in addition to cyclists. Well-designed, attractive, off-street bicycle facilities

tend to become mixed use facilities and the other user types do not move with the relative predictability of vehicles. On the other hand, even though they move with more predictability, cyclists using on-street facilities must contend with the omnipresent automobile. Safety concerns vary considerably depending on the type of bicycle facility.

Safety is reviewed in the following sections through applicable literature, examination of user types and capabilities, and user questionnaires.

